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presque, à celles du moment, où elle était déposée le même courant spécifique par lequel elle a été produite." The author also advances the hypothesis, that vital phenomena consists essentially "en un décharge nerveuse oscillante intra-nucléaire." The argument is presented in a clear and fascinating manner, and we recommend it to the attention of scientific students.

H. OSMAN NEWLAND.

LONDON.

OLD AGE PENSIONS AND THE AGED POOR. . By Rt. Hon. Charles Booth. London: Macmillan & Co., 1906.

This is a reissue of Mr. Charles Booth's old age pensions scheme, which attracted so much attention when it was first brought forward, and which to-day, in spite of the numerous other schemes which have since paraded themselves before the public, remains the simplest, wisest, and most practicable solution. Some system of old age pensions has become during recent years more necessary than when first suggested. Men are thrown out of employment earlier and while they are yet capable of doing useful service, because the stress of modern life clamors for young men only. To find employment for such unemployed will be an industrial problem for the future; how to maintain the aged poor has been a problem for many a day. Mr. Booth's scheme grapples with both, and half solves them. To every person reaching the age of seventy, he would grant a pension of seven shillings a week; to those most in need, he would grant from sixty years of age, upward, a similar pension reduced in amount proportionately to the age at which payment began. His object is to prevent pauperism by catching the poor before they have dissipated everything. The present cost is to be defrayed by taxation; but he does not suggest the sources of revenue. We cordially recommend the volume to every social reformer.

H. OSMAN NEWLAND.

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